



## James F. Keefe Jr.

September 25, 1943 - September 24, 2019

On Tuesday, September 24, 2019, James Francis Keefe, Jr., successful attorney, devoted public servant, and loving partner, father, and grandfather, passed away at age 75.

James F. Keefe was born on September 25, 1943, in Sayre, PA, to James Francis Keefe, Sr., and Margaret Steele Keefe. He graduated from Owego Free Academy in 1961 and earned a bachelor's degree from Alfred University in 1965. He received his Juris Doctorate from Albany Law School and was admitted to the bar in 1968. He served in the Vietnam War from 1968 to 1970 where he held the rank of Captain and was assigned as a Provost Marshall in the U.S. Army's Military Police. He practiced law in Cairo for over 50 years, was the town attorney for 20 years, and served as the Town Supervisor for 13 years.

Jim was a staunch proponent of his town, Cairo. He was instrumental in creating the town's ambulance service and its water and sewer system, along with many other projects that enhanced his beloved community. He was known for his quick wit, wise counsel, and loyal friendship.

Jim was preceded in death by his brother, Philip. He is survived by Carole Miller, his partner of 25 years; his four children, Jennifer (Chris) McKee, Melissa (Matt) McGowan, James F. Keefe, III, and Megan Keefe (Andy Bone);

three grandchildren, Cassidy, Samantha, and Lucas; and sisters Margaret Keefe and Dorothy Miani.

A memorial mass in his honor will be held at Sacred Heart Church in Cairo on Saturday, September 28, at 10:00 a.m. In lieu of flowers, donations may be made to the Vietnam Veterans Memorial Fund at <https://donate.vvmf.org/page/contribute/donate-to-the-vvmf>.

Arrangements have been entrusted by the family to Richards Funeral Home of the Mid-Hudson Valley Inc., Cairo, NY. Condolences may be made at [www.richardsfuneralhomeinc.net](http://www.richardsfuneralhomeinc.net).

# Previous Events

## Memorial Mass

SEP 28. 10:00 AM (ET)

Sacred Heart Church Cairo  
35 Church Street  
Cairo, NY 12413  
richardsfuneralhome@verizon.net

## Military Honors

SEP 28. 11:00 AM (ET)

Sacred Heart Church Cairo  
35 Church Street  
Cairo, NY 12413  
richardsfuneralhome@verizon.net

# Tribute Wall

AT

“ To Carole and family, i was so sorry to hear of Jims passing. My prayers go out to you during this most difficult time. I think of you often. Jim was a good man.

---

**Anita Turner** - October 18, 2019 at 06:42 AM

LM

“ Jim had a gift for connecting with people. I first saw this in history class at OFA. He wanted to learn, to see, to do. The world was a brighter place with Jim in it.

---

**Leila L. Merims** - October 03, 2019 at 11:08 AM

DB

“ I am sorry to the family of Jimmy Keefe as I knew him . I graduated from Saint Patrick's School with him in 1957 (1 thru 8). I went to his house many times on Temple Street in Owego later visited the Steele house on Chestnut Street. We went on and graduated from Owego Free Academy (High School) in 1961 . I never saw Jim after high school but thought of him many times over the years. Our small class of only 13 at Saint Pats was like family . It saddens me to hear of the passing of "JIMMY" Keefe . god Bless his soul as well as the loved ones he left behind.  
*David G. Boland Village of Owego Justice*

---

**David G. Boland** - October 01, 2019 at 08:01 PM

NW

“ *Megan & Family,*

*I am very sorry for the loss of your dad Megan. I havent seen you in years but know that I was thinking of you during this time and that I know your dad must of been a wonderful man because he raised such an amazing family.*

*With Love during this time.*

---

**Norah Wolfgang** - October 01, 2019 at 03:22 PM

KW

“ *So sorry for your loss. He was my Mom's attorney, Therese D. Wendt, who passed away in 2017 for many many years. I met him and he was a very respectful man.*

---

**Kathleen Wendt** - September 27, 2019 at 07:30 PM



“ *Full Of Love Bouquet was purchased for the family of James F. Keefe Jr..*



---

September 27, 2019 at 10:46 AM

LN

“ *Liz & Neleen purchased the Peaceful White Lilies Basket for the family of James F. Keefe Jr..*



---

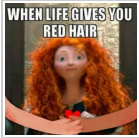
**Liz & Neleen** - September 27, 2019 at 09:33 AM

BW

“ Betty White lit a candle in memory of James F. Keefe Jr.



betty white - September 27, 2019 at 09:00 AM



“ Carol sorry for your loss,he was a true gentleman.  
The Halayko family



Freda Halayko - September 26, 2019 at 08:58 PM

DT

“ Carol and family my sympathy to all. when we were building our library and had a legal question Jim was always available to us. . He knew how important the library was for the town.and never wanted any compensation for his advice. Our prayers are with you. Dottie True

Dottie True - September 26, 2019 at 05:44 PM



“ Howard Parmelee lit a candle in memory of James F. Keefe Jr.



Howard Parmelee - September 26, 2019 at 05:27 PM

LL

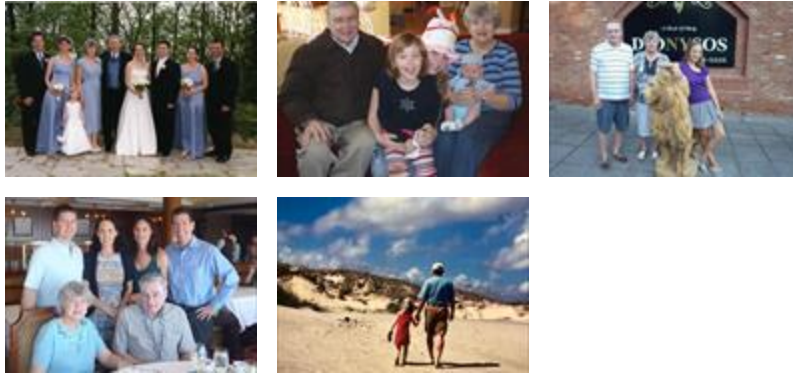
“ *Linda Lawrence lit a candle in memory of James F. Keefe Jr.*



Linda Lawrence - September 26, 2019 at 01:27 PM

CM

“ *5 files added to the tribute wall*



Chris McKee - September 26, 2019 at 10:48 AM

JM

“ *I am deeply saddened to hear of this passing of a fine man and friend. It was my sincere pleasure and privilege to have worked with Jim in service to the town of Cairo, as well as to have known him as a neighbor and upstanding, principled and honorable human being. Jim's wit and humor was always entertaining and I enjoyed his company, leadership and friendship during my 32 years of living in Cairo. Dana and I send our deepest condolences to Carole and all of his family. God Speed, Jim Keefe. You will be sorely missed and not forgotten. John & Dana Masselli; Mt. Pleasant, SC.*

John Masselli - September 26, 2019 at 10:25 AM



“ *Sheila Christine Gallagher lit a candle in memory of James F. Keefe Jr.*



---

**Sheila Christine Gallagher** - September 26, 2019 at 09:43 AM